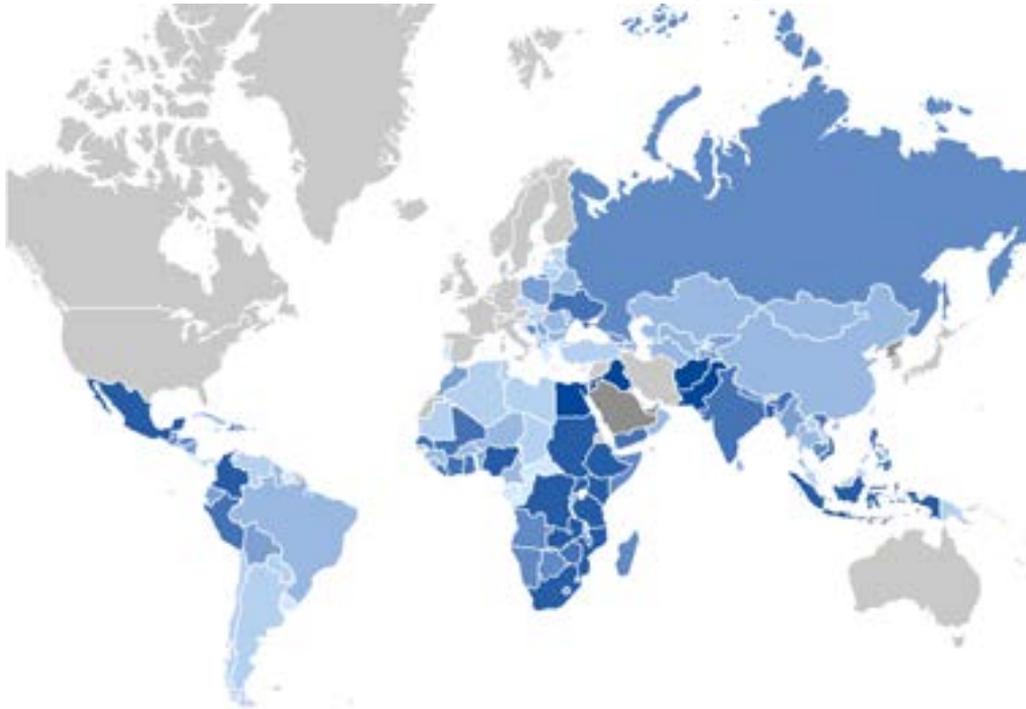


U.S. GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT
LAB

Partnerships for Enhanced
Engagement in Research (PEER)

USAID has Missions in over 100 developing countries



Climate Change

Food Security

Health

Energy

Water

Biodiversity

Conflicts

Disasters

Education

Gender

Democracy

Governance

Environment

Agriculture



WE CAN END EXTREME POVERTY

For the first time in history, we have the **tools, technologies, and approaches** to end **extreme poverty** and its most devastating consequences -- including widespread hunger and preventable child death -- **in the next two decades.**



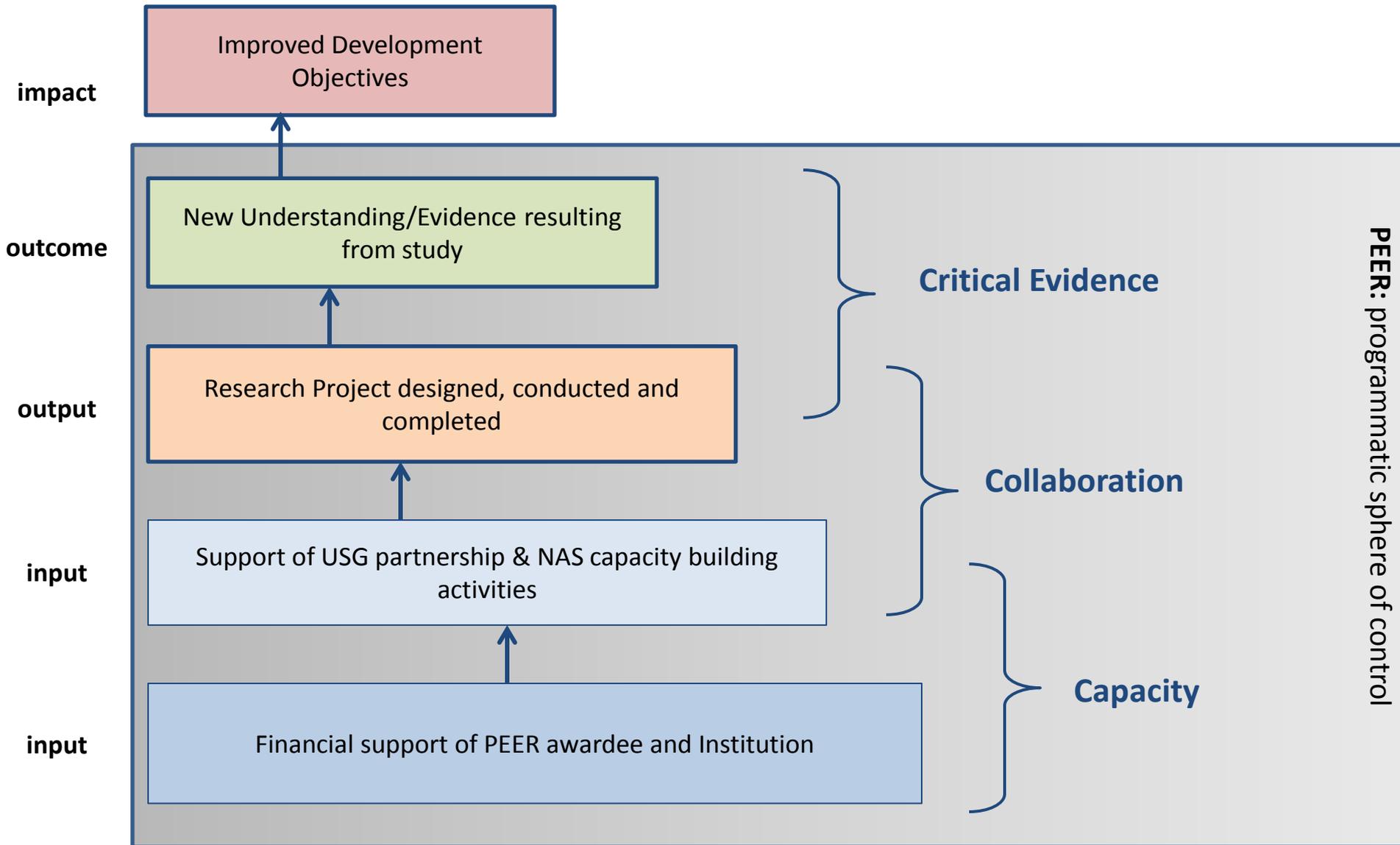
WHY PEER?

PEER puts
people at the
center of its
programming.

PEER supports
local scientists
and researchers
to develop
solutions to
local and global
challenges



PEER Results Framework



Strategic Objectives

The 3C's:

1. *Critical Evidence* - PEER advances quality research that will fill evidence gaps needed to address critical challenges facing developing countries
2. *Collaboration* - PEER advances and builds on existing relationships between local research institutions, USG partners, host country government, and USAID Missions and Embassy staff.
3. *Capacity* - PEER will help build research capacity in developing countries thereby enabling local solutions to context specific challenges



WHAT IS PEER?

Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research

PEER is a 10 year Cooperative Agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (\$100 million ceiling) to support local scientists partnering with USG researchers

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

Leveraging Research Partners....

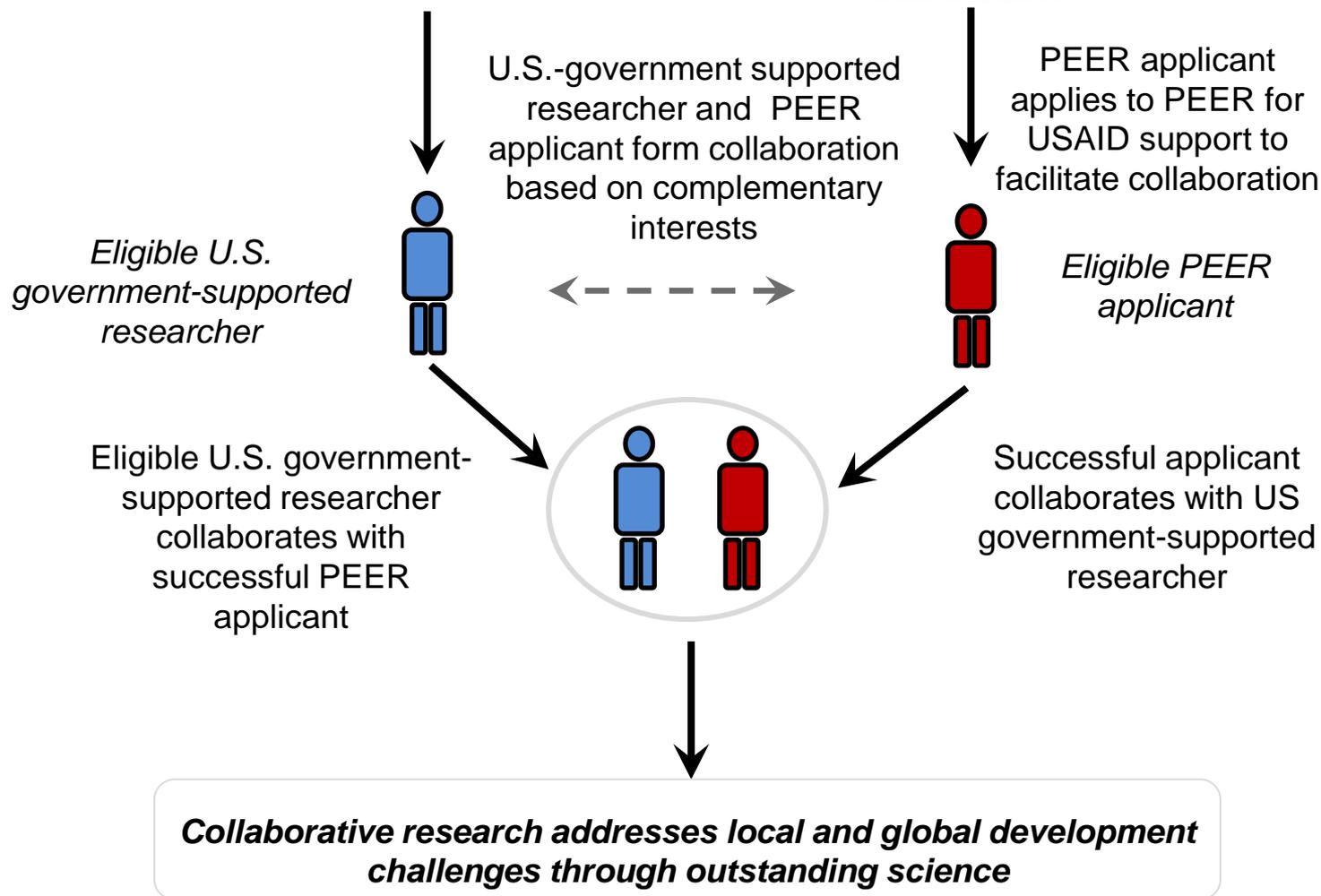


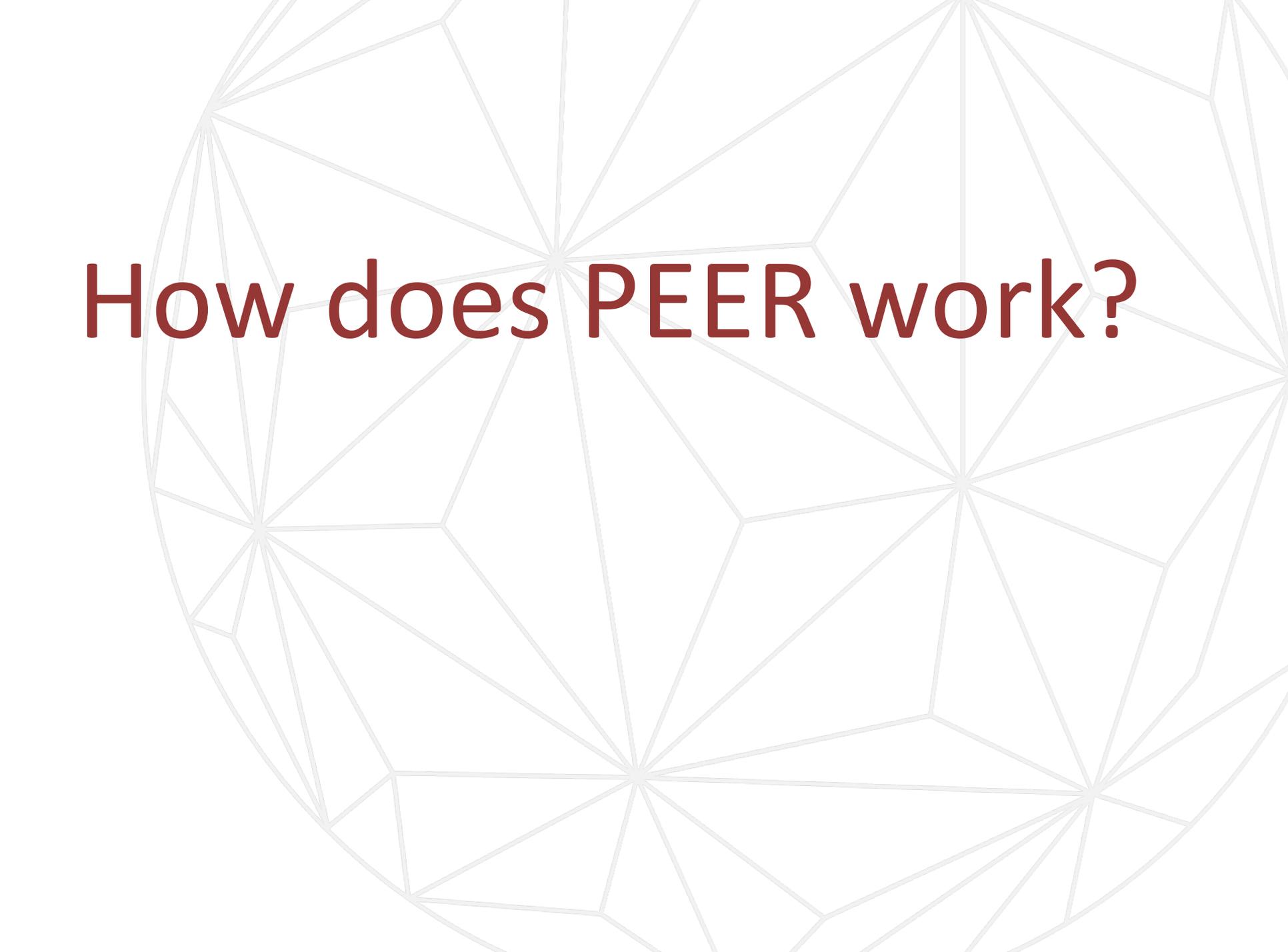
US Federal Science Agencies



Private Sector

The PEER Model





How does PEER work?

PEER Annual Time-line

★ Early Oct
Solicitation
Released

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

Programming (NAS)

Mission
Review

Technical
Review

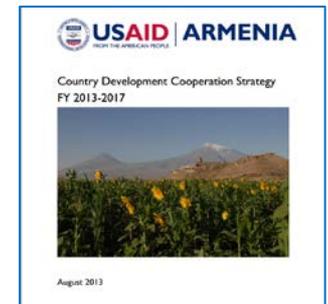
Solicitation Planning

Outreach

Annual PEER
Forum
Middle East
Forum
(March 2016)

Mission Relevance Review: January

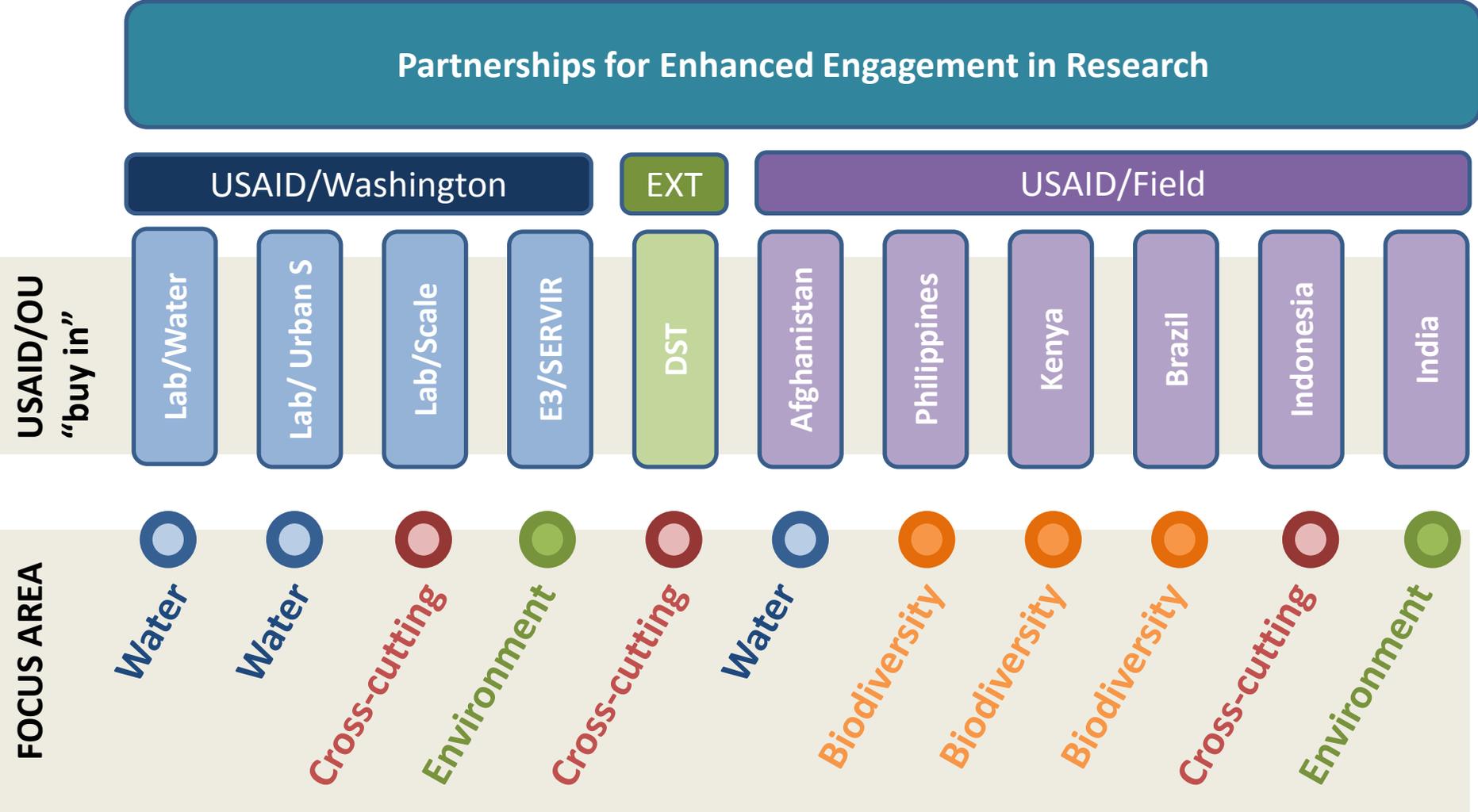
- Missions review PEER –pre-proposals to determine relevance to their CDCS and country research priorities
- In late January, USAID /Washington PEER team will send each Mission poc login to NAS Foundant website to review submitted pre-proposals
- Missions will have 2-3 weeks to review all pre-proposals from their country and rank them as either high, medium, or low relevance to Mission priorities
- The PEER team will then use these rankings to invite applicants to submit a full proposal



Focus Areas for Cycle 5

- Global: Health Implementation Science
- Infectious Disease in the Middle East
- Central and South Central Asia: Trans-boundary Water Research
- SERVIR Priority Countries: Environmental Management and Climate Change Resilience
- RDMA Priority Countries: Rapid Assessment of Fish Stocks
- Brazil: Biodiversity in the Brazilian Amazon
- Indonesia: Multiple Sectors
- South Africa: Multiple Sectors
- Vietnam: Biodiversity
- Tunisia
- GE/India
- Planet NI

PEER 'Buy-In' Structure



Important Dates for Cycle 5

October 8, 2015: Call for pre-proposals announced

January 15, 2016: Pre-proposals due

January 27, 2016: USAID/Missions can start reviewing country specific PEER pre-proposals

February 12, 2016 - USAID/Mission pre-proposal reviews are due

February 29, 2016: Selected applicants are invited to submit a full proposal, all others are notified of declination

April 15, 2016: Full proposals due

May, 2016: Full proposal technical Review panel

June, 2016: USAID/Washington & Mission discussions of Cycle 5 PEER Reviews

Late July 2016: Cycle 5 PEER awardees announced



PEER by the Numbers

PEER BY THE NUMBERS



OVER 1500
applications to PEER
over 4 years



205 PROJECTS
45 COUNTRIES
PEER projects supported
with \$45M USAID funds



\$ 300 MILLION
Partner Resources
leveraged by PEER



25%
Female-led PEER projects



OVER 4000
students supported by
PEER grants



5.3 MILLION
grants obtained by
PEER awardees

205 PEER Projects Worldwide



Health Social Sciences Environment Education Disaster Mitigation Agriculture



Water Food Security Energy Climate Biodiversity



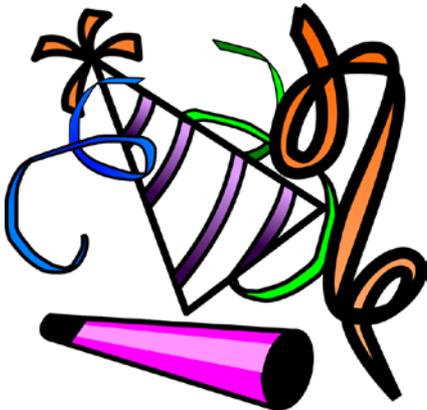
5 years of PEER Celebration

Planned: September 2016

**National Academies of Science, Engineering, and
Medicine; Washington DC**



- Talks from PEER Awardees
 - Release of PEER Mid-term Review
 - Strategic Vision for the Next 5 years of PEER
 - Success Stories
 - Partner Testimonies
 - Voices from the Missions
- And More....**





**Where can you find
more info...**

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

**PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENHANCED
ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH (PEER)**
DEVELOPMENT, SECURITY, AND COOPERATION
Policy and Global Affairs

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U.S. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LAB

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The [United States Agency for International Development \(USAID\)](#) has joined with [several U.S. Government \(USG\) supported agencies](#) to support Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER). Administered by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS), PEER is a competitive grants program that invites scientists in developing countries, partnered with USG-supported collaborators, to apply for funds to support research and capacity-building activities on topics with strong potential development impacts. This innovative program is designed to leverage the investments other USG-supported agencies have made in scientific research and training while supporting the initiatives of developing country scientists. [Learn more...](#)

Latest News

[PEER Cycle 5 Applicant Informational Webinar - November 12, 2015 10:30 EST](#)

PEER Staff/ Washington

	
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Jason Porter	PEER Regional Advisor, Central Asia & SS Africa
Anjali Kumar	PEER Regional Advisor, Latin America & Middle East
Clare Muhoro	PEER Partnerships Advisor
(vacant)	Communications Advisor
(vacant)	M&E Advisor

<i>The National Academies of</i> SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE	
Kelly Robbins	Program Director Latin America & Southeast Asia
Dalal Najib	Senior Program Officer Central Asia and Middle East
Lynnette Lusenaka	Program Officer Africa
Rob Gasior	Program Officer Health Portfolio; Online Application system
Lina Stankute-Alexander	Associate Program Officer visa, training workshops, grants admin
Daniel Placht	Senior Program Assistant Forum planning, General



Sample Projects

The impact of biogenic and anthropogenic atmospheric aerosols to climate in Egypt

- PI: Alaa Ibrahim (American University in Cairo)
- U.S. Partner: Allison Steiner (University of Michigan, NSF)
- Project Dates: August 2013 – July 2016
- \$175,800



Background and objectives of PEER project

- Aerosols: particles produced naturally and anthropogenically
- Have capacity to affect weather and health
- 25,000 people in Cairo die annually from diseases related to air pollution but no current research on aerosols in Egypt

Objectives:

- (1) Survey of aerosols in Egypt (spatial and seasonal)
- (2) Link aerosol density/distribution to climate, climate change and human health
- (3) Outreach and education for academic sector the general public

Atmospheric aerosols in Egypt over 12 years

- Completed 12 year (2003 - 2014) climatological profile of aerosols over Egypt (spatial and seasonal variations)
- Increase of frequency in Weather Dust Events over southern Egypt in the Spring
- Air pollution levels exceed typical air quality standards -Nile Delta particularly high



BEFORE AND AFTER A DUST STORM OVER RIVER NILE

Education and capacity building during PEER project



- Four university courses offered at three institutions – 2 undergrad, 1 grad and 1 professional training
- Six mentoring programs – 1 PhD, 2 MS and 3 undergrad
- Activity books for 7 - 17 year olds about environmental science and air quality produced

Outreach completed during PEER project



Video explaining aerosols and pollution in Egypt for general public

Website in English and Arabic



WATCH THE ARABIC VERSION: نظرة تأملية حول نمط حياتنا الماضي والمعاصر



Longer, more technical video about pollution, air quality and remote sensing

Mycota associated to native *Hevea* spp. in the Brazilian Amazon region

- PI: Aristóteles Góes-Neto (Centro de Excelência em Bioinformática, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz--Fiocruz)
- U.S. Partner: Priscila Chaverri (University of Maryland, College Park, NSF)
- Project Dates: August 2013 to May 2016
- \$90,400



Background and objectives of PEER project

- Endophytic fungi associated with economically valuable native rubber trees in Brazilian Amazon can be used for biocontrol of South American leaf blight (*Microcyclus ulei*)
- Project will add value to important tree of Amazonian forests
- Highlight and categorize biodiversity of little known species (fungi)

Objectives:

- (1) Characterize endophytic and saprophytic fungi associated to *Hevea* spp.
- (2) Identify fungi important for fighting blight.

Summary of recent activities

- Collection in three study sites in Brazil
- Isolation of 503 fungal strains from *Hevea* spp.
- Voucher specimens preserved and stored.
- Extraction of genomic DNA from mycelia in culture
- Amplification and sequencing of target genomic region for 305 strains
- Molecular identification of strains

Novel results and future work

- 7 distinct fungal genera not previously identified found associated to *Hevea* spp.
- Continue sequencing and identifying endophytic fungi
- Culture test fungi with leaf blight

